

REMARKS

Independent claim 1 has been amended so as to be directed to a photomask having, on a glass plate, a shade pattern containing at least nanoparticles and a binder, wherein the nanoparticles in the shade pattern have an exposure-light-scattering characteristic which substantially restricts transmittance of exposure light through the nanoparticles. As amended, claim 1 is patentable over the art of record, according to the Examiner as discussed by telephone on October 8, 2003.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the application should stand in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



Daniel J. Stanger
Registration No. 32,846
Attorney for Applicant(s)

MATTINGLY, STANGER & MALUR, P.C.
1800 Diagonal Rd., Suite 370
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
Telephone: (703) 684-1120
Facsimile: (703) 684-1157
Date: October 15, 2003